

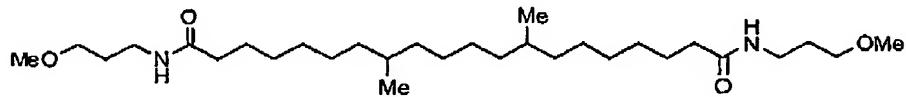
Application No. 10/743,836
Second Supplemental Reply to Office Action of December 19, 2008

IN THE CLAIMS

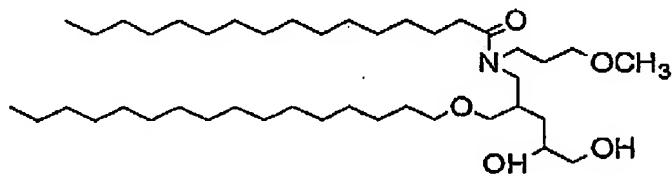
Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A hair cleansing composition comprising the following components (A) to (C):

(A): 0.2 to 3 wt. % of an amphipathic amide lipid selected from the group consisting of



and



(B): 10 to 22 wt.% of an anionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of mixture wherein said anionic surfactants are sodium polyoxyethylene (2) lauryl ether sulfate and sodium lauryl sulfate, and

(C): 0.5 to 2 wt. % of at least one organic acid selected from the group consisting of lactic acid, malic acid, or a salt thereof, wherein the composition has a pH of from 1 to 4.5 at 25°C when diluted with water to 20 times the weight of the composition.

Claims 2-4 (canceled)

5. (previously presented) The hair cleansing composition of Claim 1, further comprising 0.1 to 5 wt. % of a cationic polymer selected from the group consisting of cationized hydroxyethyl cellulose and cationized guar gum, and mixtures thereof.

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6. (original) The hair cleansing composition of Claim 1, wherein the pH of the composition is from 2 to 4.

7. (currently amended) The hair cleansing composition of Claim 1, further comprising 0.1 to 5 wt. % of a nonionic surfactant of cocoylimonoethanoamide.

Claims 8-19 (canceled)

20. (previously presented) The hair cleansing composition of claim 1, wherein said pH is from 3 to 4.

21. (canceled)

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SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

Support for the amendment to claim 1 is found on page 16, lines 14-25 of the specification. Support for the amendment to claim 7 is found in examples 1-3. No new matter would be added to this application by entry of this amendment.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 5-7 and 20 will remain active in this application.

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

The claimed invention is directed to a hair cleansing composition.

Applicants wish to thank examiner Venkat for the helpful and courteous discussion held with their U.S. representative on September 21, 2009. At that time, the examiner proposed a scope of claim which she believed to be more commensurate in scope with the demonstration of enhanced hair care performance. Specifically the examiner noted that the evidence of enhanced performance was conducted on an anionic surfactant mixture of sodium polyoxyethylene (2) lauryl ether sulfate and sodium lauryl sulfate.

Applicants note that sodium polyoxyethylene (2) lauryl ether sulfate, as describe on page 16 of applicants' specification is a representation of a weight average number. Thus, sodium polyoxyethylene (2) lauryl ether sulfate consists of a mixture of each of the compounds having the addition molar number of ethylene oxide of 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or more, although the existence of 4 or more is rare. Such weight average number reporting is always the case when describing polyoxyethylene alkyl ether sulfates as surfactants. Thus, a mixture of sodium polyoxyethylene (2) lauryl ether sulfate and sodium lauryl sulfate is essentially identical to sodium polyoxyethylene lauryl ether sulfate with an average addition molar number of ethylene oxide units of exceeding 0 and less than 2. For example, such a mixture can be obtained by mixing the compound where the addition molar number of ethylene oxide is 1 and the compound where the number is 0 (i.e. sodium lauryl sulfate), or by mixing the compound wherein the addition molar number of ethylene oxide is 2 and the compound where the number is 1. Further, because the specification examples exhibit the case using a mixture of sodium polyoxyethylene (2) lauryl ether sulfate and sodium lauryl sulfate, the same effect can be exhibited in the case of using sodium polyoxyethylenelauryl ether sulfate having an average addition molar number of 1.

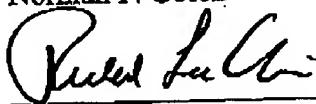
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As applicants have demonstrated enhanced performance using a mixture of sodium polyoxyethylene (2) lauryl ether sulfate and sodium lauryl sulfate, the claims are believed to be commensurate in scope with applicants' demonstration.

Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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